

minutely erose-serrulate above; the first 1–1.5 mm. long, obscurely 1-nerved, rather narrowly ovate, tapering to an acute tip; the second 2–2.5 mm. long, obscurely 3-nerved, ovate, acute, the mid-nerve often minutely scabrous above: lemmas 2.5–3 mm. long, broadly ovate, rather abruptly narrowed to an acute or acutish tip, firm in texture below, hyaline and erose-serrulate above, pubescent toward the base, obscurely 5-nerved: palea about equalling the lemma, lanceolate, slightly narrowed to the fimbriate-emarginate tip, scabrous on the nerves above, ciliate below: anthers in dried specimens 1.5–1.8 mm. long (somewhat longer when boiled out and perhaps in fresh material), purple: immature grain 1.6 mm. long.—“Saskatchewan” and Assiniboia to Wyoming and eastern Oregon. “SASKATCHEWAN”: *Bourgeau*, 1858. ASSINIBOIA: salt marshes, Cypress Hills, July 31, 1880, *John Macoun*. WYOMING: Little Laramie River, 1897, *T. A. Williams*, no. 2291. OREGON: in alkaline alfalfa meadows, Grande Ronde Valley, 930 m. alt., June 30, 1908, *Cusick*, nos. 3269 and 3271 (the latter TYPE in Gray Herb.)

In the character of its inflorescence and in its large anther resembling *P. Lemmoni*, but lacking the dense basal tufts of involute-setaceous leaves which seem to be characteristic of that species and differing further in its pubescent lemma and glabrous rachilla. In *P. Lemmoni* the lemma is glabrous, but the callus pubescent and the rachilla of the spikelets is more or less pubescent or scabrous.

EAST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT.

## VARIANTS OF *ASTER HERVEYI*.

### E. WILLIAMS HERVEY.

IN examining a number of specimens of *Aster Herveyi*, the writer discovered some forms differing from the described type especially in the size and shape of the leaves, which varied from broadly ovate, acute at tip, and rounded or slightly heart-shape at base to ovate-lanceolate or lanceolate; some even tapering at base into a more or less margined petiole. The broader leaf-form resembles *Aster macrophyllus* and is found most abundant in its neighborhood. The narrower leaf-form is found in dryer soil where *Aster spectabilis* is more common. These two forms often are so similar to the above species as to be scarcely distinguishable. *A. macrophyllus* and *A. spectabilis* are usually found in the vicinity of *A. Herveyi*. The same root of *A.*



*Herveyi* has been seen to bear root-leaves of the two extreme forms mentioned. From the foregoing facts as well as others it is manifest that *A. Herveyi* is a hybrid.

Unlike other Aster hybrids, however, which are rarely found except singly or two or three together *A. Herveyi* has been found in colonies of a rod or two in extent and then beyond scattering over several acres of an open woodland. This hybrid may be propagated at least in part by seed as shown from the following: Next to a garden containing a bed of transplanted *A. Herveyi* there was a vacant grass-grown lot. In course of time the lot was ploughed and planted and in a year or two after several specimens of *A. Herveyi* were found growing and in bloom on one side where the soil had been disturbed. These must have originated from self-sown seed from the garden as none existed there before.

NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS.

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AUTUMN EXCURSION OF THE NEW ENGLAND BOTANICAL CLUB.—It was the unanimous desire of the twelve men who braved the rainy weather of June 10 and 11 on Cape Cod this year, that there should be a similar or larger excursion to Hyannis in September. Accommodations are available at the Hyannis Inn at \$2.50 per day. Fare from Boston is \$1.92 each way. The Committee has set Sept. 15–17 for this excursion. It is hoped that everyone will be back from vacations at this time and ready for one more good trip before the season closes.

The June excursion brought several additions to the flora of Cape Cod, and a few to that of New England. Southeastern Massachusetts has furnished a larger number of plants new to our flora during the past eight years than any other section of New England. The area is large, and the workers have been few. May this excursion prove to be the largest and most successful in the history of the Club.—CLARENCE H. KNOWLTON, Chairman of Excursion Committee.

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